

A front teleconverter lens system having superb optical performance with less production of aberration in spite of its compactness. The front teleconverter lens system includes, in order from an object, a first lens group having positive refractive power, and a second lens group having negative refractive power, and forming an afocal optical system. A diffractive optical surface is arranged in at least one of the first lens group and the second lens group. The conditional expression $1.2 < \phi F/\phi R < 10$ is satisfied, where ϕF denotes the effective diameter of the most object side lens surface of the first lens group, and ϕR denotes the effective diameter of the most image side lens surface of the second lens group.